

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 01225 01 OF 03 132117Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 CU-04 COME-00 OES-07 ACDA-12
/100 W

-----010584 132142Z /66

R 132053Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4250
INFO USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 01225

NOFORN INCLUDING FRENCH

E.O. 11652: XGDS-L
TAGS: CH, FR, PEPR
SUBJECT: FRENCH PRIME MINISTER BARRE'S TRIP TO CHINA

SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH THE REASONS BEHIND THE BARRE TRIP TO CHINA ARE SEVERAL (INCLUDING INTERNAL FRENCH POLITICS) THE PRINCIPAL THEME OF THE TRIP WILL BE FRANCO/CHINESE BILATERAL RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY TRADE. THE EXTERNAL TRADE MINISTER AND A NUMBER OF BUSINESSMEN WILL ACCOMPANY BARRE TO HIGHLIGHT THIS ASPECT. ALTHOUGH THE FRENCH DO NOT EXPECT IMPORTANT CONTRACTS TO BE SIGNED, THEY WISH TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF POSSIBLE TRADE AND TO ESTABLISH A FOUNDATION FOR AN EXCHANGE OF A NUMBER OF TECHNICAL MISSIONS WHICH WILL WORK OUT FUTURE CONTRACTS. THE CHINESE ARE INTERESTED IN SOME SENSITIVE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, BUT THE FRENCH WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING UNLESS IT REALLY SERVES FRENCH INTERESTS. THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 01225 01 OF 03 132117Z

FRENCH HOPE TO SIGN SOME SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL AGREEMENTS (REGULAR TWO YEAR RENEWAL) WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR A BROADENING OF EXCHANGES--INCLUDING EVEN THE HUMANISTIC SCIENCES. THE FRENCH EXPECT THE USUAL LECTURES ON THE CHINESE VIEW OF WORLD POLITICS, PARTICULARLY THE SOVIET MENACE, BUT THEY HOPE THAT IN TURN THEY MAY LEARN MORE ABOUT

DEVELOPMENTS IN CHINESE FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLITICS.
THE FRENCH THOUGHT THAT THE CHINESE WOULD BE PLEASED
THAT BARRE WAS VISITING CHINA AS HE HAD THE OTHER
"GREAT POWERS", THE US AND USSR.

1. QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ASIA GAVE US A RUNDOWN
ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF PLANNING FOR THE
JANUARY 19-24 BARRE VISIT TO CHINA. TO HIGHLIGHT
THE IMPORTANCE OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC MATTERS, BARRE WILL
BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE, ANDRE
ROSSI, ROSSI'S DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL ECONOMIC
RELATIONS, BERTRAND DE MOREL, AND SEVERAL BUSINESSMEN
WHO ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF FIRMS WHICH IN THE PAST
HAVE HAD THE MOST SUCCESSFUL TRADE WITH CHINA. THEY
WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALSTHOM-ATLANTIQUE
(LOCOMOTIVES), ELF-AQUITAINE (PETROLEUM), CREUSOT
LOIRE (STEEL), RHOME POULENC (CHEMICALS, BERLIET
(TRUCKS), FRAMATOME (NUCLEAR ENERGY), TECHNIP
(ENGINEERING), AND SPEICHIM (ENGINEERING). (SOME OF
THESE REPRESENTATIVES ARE OF FIRMS INVOLVED IN THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A PETROCHEMICAL INSTALLATION WHICH
BARRE WILL VISIT DURING HIS TRIP.) BARRE WILL ALSO
BE ACCOMPANIED BY MEMBERS OF HIS OWN STAFF AND QUAI
OFFICIALS SUCH AS THE DIRECTOR OF ASIA (NOIVILLE)
AND HIS DEPUTY WHO HANDLES NORTH ASIA (LECLERCQ).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 01225 01 OF 03 132117Z

2. THE VISIT OF DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL
YANG CHENG-WU AND THE FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER
LI CHIANG HAD NOT RESULTED IN ANY DEFINITE CONTRACTS,
NOR DO THE FRENCH THINK THAT CONTRACTS WILL
NECESSARILY BE SIGNED DURING THE BARRE VISIT. THE
FOCAL POINT WILL NONETHELESS BE ON IMPROVING
SINO/FRENCH TRADE, PARTICULARLY FRENCH EXPORTS WHICH
DROPPED FROM 1.6 BILLION FRANCS IN 1976
TO 0.45 BILLION FRANCS IN 1977, LEAVING FRENCH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 01225 02 OF 03 132107Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 CU-04 COME-00 OES-07 ACDA-12
/100 W

-----010450 132143Z /66

R 132053Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4251

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 PARIS 01225

NOFORN

IMPORTS FROM CHINA DOUBLE THEIR EXPORTS. THE FRENCH HOPE TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF TRADE POSSIBILITIES, IN PARTICULAR TO SPEED UP AGREEMENT ON SOME CONTRACTS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDER NEGOTIATION FOR A YEAR OR TWO. AREAS OF INTEREST TO THE FRENCH ARE: RAILROAD ROLLING STOCK AND TRAFFIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY (A RAILROAD MISSION IS NOW IN CHINA); TRUCKS; AIRPLANES (THE CHINESE HAVE SHOWN AN INTEREST IN THE AIRBUS); ELECTRIC AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT (A TECHNICAL MISSION WAS RECENTLY IN CHINA AND LI CH'ANG PARTICULARLY WISHED TO SEE THE NEW TUILERIES TELEPHONE EXCHANGE AND RADIO TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT); AIRPORT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT; CHEMICALS, PARTICULARLY PETROCHEMICAL, SUCH AS ARTIFICIAL FIBRES AND FERTILIZER; PETROLEUM EXTRACTION EQUIPMENT; COALMINING EQUIPMENT; AND SOME MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 01225 02 OF 03 132107Z

3. WHILE, AS NOTED ABOVE, THE FRENCH DO NOT EXPECT TO MAKE GREAT PROGRESS IN ALL THESE FIELDS DURING BARRE'S VISIT, THEY DO HOPE TO DISCUSS GENERAL PROGRAMS WHICH CAN LATER RESULT IN AN EXCHANGE OF TEHCNICAL MISSION. LECLERCQ NOTED THAT WHEN IT CAME TO PETROLEUM EXTRACTION EQUIPMENT, THE FRENCH WOULD BE IN COMPETITION WITH THE US.

4. THE FRENCH HAD GATHERED THAT THE CHINESE WERE INTERESTED IN SOME ADVANCED SENSITIVE TECHNOLOGY,

BUT ANY DEALS WOULD DEPEND ON WHAT WAS IN IT FOR FRANCE. THE FRENCH KNOW THAT THE CHINESE HAVE NO INTENTION OF PURCHASING LOW TECHNOLOGY WEAPONS SUCH AS TANKS, SHIPS, ETC. BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT FUNDS (TO DIVERT FROM HIGHER PRIORITY EQUIPMENT. THE CHINESE WERE INTERESTED IN MISSILES, HOWEVER, BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT THEY WISHED TECHNOLOGY MORE THAN CONTINUING PURCHASES, AND THE FRENCH WERE NOT PREPARED TO PROVIDE AN IMPORTANT PATENT WHILE GETTING SMALL PURCHASES IN RETURN.

5. SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES. BARRE'S TRIP COINCIDES WITH A PERIODIC (EVERY TWO YEAR) RENEWAL OF THE SINO/FRENCH SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL AGREEMENTS. THE FRENCH HOPE BARRE WILL BE ABLE TO SIGN A NEW AGREEMENT WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR AN ENLARGEMENT OF THE SCOPE OF THE CURRENT AGREEMENTS, AND THE CHINESE SEEM TO BE WILLING. THE FRENCH WERE PLEASED TO FIND, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE CHINESE MAY FINALLY ACCEPT FRENCH STUDENTS IN CHINA FOR STUDY OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND EVEN THE HUMANISTIC SCIENCES, SUCH AS SOCIOLOGY. (HE NOTED GOF DISSATISFACTION WITH THE CURRENT LIMITATION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 01225 02 OF 03 132107Z

TO CHINESE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE STUDIES.) SUCH AN EXPANSION WOULD BE MOST SIGNIFICANT AS AN ILLUSTRATION OF TENG HSIAO-P'ING'S NEW POLICY OF BEING MORE OPEN TO THE WEST.

6. QUAI OFFICIAL ASKED THAT THIS INFORMATION NOT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 01225 03 OF 03 132111Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 CU-04 COME-00 OES-07 ACDA-12

/100 W

-----010491 132141Z /66

R 132053Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4252
INFO USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 PARIS 01225

NOFORN

BE PASSED TO ANY FOREIGNERS, INCLUDING THE FRENCH IN WASHINGTON AND PEKING. HE NOTED THAT BARRE WOULD WISH TO COMPLETE HIS TRIP AND GET BACK TO FRANCE TO MAKE HIS REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT BEFORE THE FRENCH WOULD WISH TO TELL US VERY MUCH MORE ABOUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

7. LECLERCQ THOUGHT THAT THE LARGEST PART OF THE TALKS WOULD BE WITH TENG, NOT HUA, AT WHOSE INVITATION BARRE WAS NOMINALLY GOING TO CHINA. THEY THOUGHT THAT TENG WOULD RUN THROUGH THE USUAL POLITICAL TOPICS WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE DANGERS OF THE USSR AND ITS POLICIES TOWARD EUROPE AND AFRICA. THEY EXPECTED LITTLE NEW TO EMERGE FROM THESE LECTURES. THE FRENCH HOPED TO OBTAIN FROM THESE TALKS SIGNS NOT ONLY OF EVOLUTION IN CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY, BUT ALSO OF THE STATUS OF CHINESE INTERNAL POLITICS. SINCE THE FRENCH HAD THE 1975 TENG VISIT TO FRANCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 01225 03 OF 03 132111Z

FOR COMPARISON, THEY THOUGHT THEY MIGHT GET SOME NEW INSIGHTS FROM THE BARRE TALKS.

8. LECLERCQ COMMENTED THAT THE VISIT TO CHINA WOULD SHOW THAT BARRE WAS AN INTERNATIONAL STATESMAN, AS WELCOME IN PEKING AS IN WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW. IN ADDITION, IT WOULD FLATTER THE CHINESE BY SHOWING THEM THAT IN THE EYES OF PARIS, CHINA WAS ONE OF THE BIG COUNTRIES ALONG WITH THE US AND USSR. ALTHOUGH THE CHINESE WOULD REJECT THE WORD "SUPERPOWER", THEY WOULD ACCEPT THE FRENCH COMPLIMENT AND GIVE BARRE A GOOD WELCOME EVEN THOUGH NOTHING VERY CONCRETE WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED.
HARTMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS01225
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1 L
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780021-0090
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780165/aaaaccys.tel
Line Count: 276
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2223fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3777566
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRENCH PRIME MINISTER BARRE\`S TRIP TO CHINA SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH THE REASONS BEHIND THE BARRE TRIP TO CHINA ARE SEVERAL (INCLUDING INTERNAL FRENCH
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, CH, FR, (BARRE, RAYMOND)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2223fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014